(iii) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

Disposal of hazardous waste oil

1367. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has fined Government for negligent approach in disposal of hazardous waste oil from major ports imported in the guise of lubricants;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken to recover the dues from the officials, negligent incomplying, with court orders?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (c) As per the Supreme Court's orders, the Ministry was required to (i) submit a report on the waste oil consignments seized at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port, Nhava Sheva, Mumbai, (ii) conduct an inquiry regarding the disappearance of wastes from the port, and (iii) file an affidavit regarding action taken on the Action-Plan contained in the report of the High Powered Committee (HPC). The Ministry has complied with the directions by way of filing an affidavit on 26.09.2001 based on the report of analysis of oil samples collected from the seized containers at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port, Nhava Sheva, Mumbai, carried out by the Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun and setting up an Inquiry Committee on 31.01.2002 to probe into the disappearance of wastes from the ports. A detailed supplementary affidavit was filed on 06.12.2001 incorporating the responses of various States in respect of recommendations of the HPC. There has been no delay on the part of the Ministry in complying with the orders of the Supreme Court.

Based on the above facts, an application has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking condonation of the fine of Rs. 10000 imposed *vide* Supreme Court's order dated 04.02.2002.

Environment Projects in Assam

1368. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount sanctioned and released by Government to Assam, for development and promotion of environment projects during the last three years;